INDIALAW

Sector-Specific Competition Advisory

Sector-Specific Competition Advisory Law Firm in India for CCI Compliance

PRACTICE PROFILE • OCTOBER 2026

Overview

Our Sector-Specific Competition Advisory practice combines deep industry knowledge with competition law expertise to address the unique regulatory challenges faced by clients in specialized sectors. We understand how competition principles apply differently across regulated industries and offer strategic guidance that accounts for sector-specific regulatory frameworks, technological considerations, and market dynamics. Our team provides practical, contextual advice that helps clients navigate the intersection of competition law with industry-specific regulations, ensuring legally compliant yet commercially viable operational strategies.

Our Services

Digital Markets & Technology

- Advisory on platform regulation, data access, and algorithmic pricing
- Guidance on technology partnerships, licensing, and data sharing arrangements
- Compliance strategies for dominant tech platforms and marketplace operators

Financial Services

- Competition advice for banking, insurance, payment systems, and fintech operations
- Guidance on financial infrastructure access and interoperability requirements

Energy & Infrastructure

- Advisory on bidding processes, essential facilities, and regulatory overlaps
- Guidance on energy market competition and infrastructure access
- Compliance strategies for public-private partnerships and regulated assets

Telecommunications & Media

- Advice on spectrum allocation, interconnection, and content distribution
- Guidance on telecom infrastructure sharing and network agreements
- Compliance strategies for digital content platforms and distribution networks

Retail & E-commerce

- Advisory on vertical integration, MFN clauses, and selective distribution
- Guidance on omnichannel retailing and marketplace operations
- Compliance strategies for pricing algorithms and personalized offerings

Manufacturing & Industrial Goods

- Advice on standardization, R&D collaborations, and joint ventures
- Guidance on supply chain arrangements and industrial partnerships
- Compliance strategies for industry associations and collaborative initiatives

Key Professionals



Rahul Sundaram

Partner

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1 What does sector-specific competition advisory involve in India?

It involves applying competition law principles to the distinct market structures and regulatory frameworks of specific industries such as telecom, financial services, energy, digital platforms, and manufacturing. The advice accounts for overlapping regulators, sector rules, and unique competitive dynamics rather than offering generic guidance.

Q2 When should a company seek sector-specific competition advice?

Typically before entering regulated markets, launching platform-based business models, forming joint ventures or R&D collaborations, responding to CCI investigations, or when sector regulators propose new access or interoperability mandates. Early advice reduces the risk of inadvertent non-compliance with both competition and sectoral rules.

Q3 Which Indian laws and regulators govern competition in regulated sectors?

The Competition Act, 2002 and CCI are the primary framework. However, sector regulators like RBI for banking, TRAI for telecom, CERC for energy, and IRDAI for insurance also enforce competition-adjacent rules on pricing, access, and market entry. Coordinating across these regimes is essential.

Q4 How long does a typical sector-specific competition assessment take?

A focused compliance review for a single transaction or conduct issue usually takes four to eight weeks. Broader market assessments or multi-regulator analyses may take longer. Key cost drivers include the number of overlapping regulatory regimes, market definition complexity, and the volume of commercial data requiring analysis.

Q5 What documents or data should a client prepare before engaging advisors?

Clients should gather relevant licensing and regulatory approvals, partnership or distribution agreements, internal pricing policies, market share estimates, correspondence with sector regulators or CCI, and any industry association participation records. This baseline enables accurate risk mapping from the outset.

Q6 What common mistake do companies make in multi-regulator sectors?

Many assume that compliance with a sector regulator, such as TRAI or RBI, automatically satisfies competition law obligations. The CCI applies the Competition Act independently. Conduct cleared by a sectoral authority can still attract CCI scrutiny for abuse of dominance or anti-competitive agreements.

Related Practice Areas

Competition / Anti-Trust | Competition Policy & Regulatory Affairs | Competition Compliance & Risk Management | Merger Control & Combinations | Competition Investigations & Enforcement Defence